

PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT
Report of the Executive Director – July
Submitted to the Library Board of Trustees
August 27, 2026

Barkman Library

Miscellaneous Barkman monthly info:

Active Program events: 33

Attendance Estimate Total: 496

Passive Program events: 8

Attendance Estimate Total: 376

Outreaches/Partnership Programs & Events: 25

Attendance Estimate Total: 719

The highest participant attendance was due to Barkmans partnership with D60 Lunch program. Over the month of July, an estimated 707 lunches were distributed to the youth in the Belmont area. Barkman provided access to our community room so that anyone interested who received lunches could eat inside and away from the heat and wind.



Two adult women and young girl in front of D60 van.

Most anticipated Event: Storytime with the Pueblo Fire Department

The Belmont fire team came to visit our Family Storytime this month. Not only did our firefighters read some riveting stories to the kids, everyone got to go outside and see the firetruck. All the kids took turns working the firehose and one lucky kid got to help start the truck!



Group of children and adults listening to fireman read a story.



Young girl uses firehose with help of firefighter.

Giodone Library

Outreach –

Thanks to a Friends Grant for outreach, we were able to rent a Bounce House and buy pizza for the Boys and Girls club at McHarg Park in Avondale.



Program Highlights –

Summer reading programs were well attended, and a favorite was the puppet show!



Building Updates

Sandy borrowed a Fossil Exhibit from the State Library, and Facilities brought us over a case to display it in. It went very well with our Summer Reading Theme - Dig into Reading.



Conclusion

In total we had 587 in program attendance, 2 notary appointments, 14 public meeting room reservations, and 22 study room reservations.

Greenhorn Valley Library

The Greenhorn Valley Branch was closed due to evacuation orders for a significant part of July.

Youth Program Highlight:

Title: Family Friday - Firefighters Visit

Date: All Open Fridays

Description: When the library opened again we made sure to resume as much of our regular schedule as possible so that families returning to the area have something familiar to come back to. Local and state wide fire departments sent representatives to be available for each of our Family Friday programs so kids could ask questions about the fire and learn more about everything from containment to predicting movement.

Adult/All Ages Program Highlight:

Title: Book Club After Dark

Date: 7/31

Description: Our Book Club After Dark group was thrilled that the branch was back and operating in time for our July meeting, because our book had been “White Trash Warlock” written by David R. Slayton, an author that lives in Denver and drove down to attend the book club. We had amazing conversations not only about the book and its themes but also about his writing process, inspiration, and what made some of his style so unique.

Outreach or Special Project/Initiative Highlight:

Title: Re-Opening

Date: Week of 7/20

Description: After evacuation orders were released GHV re-opened with a focus on being a community gathering point and resource hub. We have been collaborating with the fire departments, the sheriff's department, the health department, Health Solutions, and more to make sure to provide needed resources like water, therapy opportunities, paperwork help, and contact information tailored to their needs. During this time the district supported us being able to provide snacks and beverages for anyone that wanted them when they came in, letting us serve as a much-needed community living room.

Lucero Library

Branch Highlight:

Highlight: Our Volunteers

Description: In July, we said goodbye to teen volunteer Billy. We introduced Ethan and Angel, East High School students ready to start their required community service quota. And we have maintained Amanda, Diane and Michael who have tended to our gardens and packaged Spice Library spices. We value our volunteer's dedication to our community!

Tina

Highlight: Starting a new direct community partnership with Chicanos Por La Causa (CPLC)

Description: Chris boxed up 75 children's books (via our BALC program) which I then coordinated with CPLC to pick up. After this interaction, we have been able to discuss CPLC tabling at our branch. We hope to create more involved relationship in the near future.

Chris

Highlight Youth Program: Bubbles, Balloons and Tacos

Description: I held the 2nd annual Bubbles, Balloons, and Tacos event at El Centro with the help of Tina and the events staff. This program brought together Parks and Recreation with other community partners to just have fun and enjoy ourselves. We had a total of 184 people show up to this event.

Jessica

Highlight: Adult Programs:
Crafty Crew: Craft for a Cause

Description: With our amazing and enthusiastic attendees, we worked together to craft essential items for a local animal shelter. In total, the group created 17 blankets in a variety of sizes and 13 snuffle mats. Patrons thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to give back to local shelter pets and show support for our community's furry friends.



Picture Description:

The Patrick A. Lucero honor wall with a few piles of folded fleece blankets and snuffle mats.

Lamb Library & Library @ the Y

Lamb Library held a total of 67 programs, outreaches, training sessions, and promotional activities this month, with a total attendance of 849.

YMCA Satellite held a total of 7 programs, outreaches, training sessions, and promotional activities this month, with a total attendance of 141.

Youth Program Highlight:

Title: Stories & Songs - Preschool Storytime

Date: July 7th, 2026

Description: Youth programming embraced the Summer Reading Program theme with a month full of dinosaur adventures. The standout favorite was a weekly shaker egg song featuring dinosaur eggs, with children eagerly singing, shaking, and participating each week. The interactive song quickly became a beloved Storytime tradition and one of the highlights of the summer.

Adult/All Ages Program Highlight:

Title: Classic Crafting for Social Seniors: Souvenirs from the Shore

Date: 7/27/26

Description: This month's adult programming captured the spirit of summer travel and vacation memories with our beach-inspired scallop shell trinket dishes. Participants transformed real scallop shells into unique keepsakes. Designs ranged from relaxing beach landscapes to imaginative underwater worlds filled with ocean-inspired details. Each creation became a personal souvenir, allowing participants to keep a little piece of summer vacation close all year long.



Senior Craft

Outreach or Special Project/Initiative Highlight:

Title: PDI Outreach

Date: 7/15/26

Description: Outreach efforts at Pueblo Diversified Industries (PDI) expanded this month with two successful visits. During our monthly maker program, participants created and decorated personalized hand fans to help beat the summer heat. Later, we partnered with PDI to celebrate the launch of their new internal library with a PCCLD library card sign-up and craft extravaganza. The event generated excitement for reading, introduced participants to library resources, and marked the beginning of an exciting new chapter in our ongoing partnership.

July SRP Winners!



Brixey Merritt



Miles Jackson

Pueblo West Library

Pueblo West Library held a total of 110 programs, outreaches, club meetings, technology training, and Kits2Go with a total attendance of 2537.

Youth Program Highlight:

Title: Animal Encounters with the Pueblo Zoo - Summer Reading Family Fun!

Date: 7/15/26

Description: The Pueblo Zoo brought some exciting animals to PW library. The kids loved the turtle, millipede and especially the small chickens. 1 chicken laid an egg in the library and all the children shrieked with joy and maybe shock.

Adult/All Ages Program Highlight:

Title: Cryptozoology

Date: 7/8/2026

Description: Professor Lei Marquez returned to talk about the world's mystery creatures, including the Loch Ness Monster, Sasquatch, and Chupacabra, among others. The presentation was very fun and informative, and presented in a way that let attendees come up with their own conclusions about whether to believe or not.

Patron Stories

A Tech Talk attendee needed help navigating her Android phone. Beth showed her how to access her contacts, start group chats, access her archived chats, and attach photos to texts and emails.

French club attendees were at all different skill levels, and so we decided to focus on conjugations of some of the more common verbs, with a real focus on accurate pronunciation. Then we each talked briefly about ourselves, using basic adjectives in French.



Outreach

This month, the library attended the Chicanos Por La Causa 3rd Annual Health & Resource Fair for the second consecutive year. This event provides a valuable opportunity to connect with families we don't always have the chance to reach through our regular outreach efforts. Many attendees were excited to learn about the library's upcoming events and the resources and services we offer.

Submitted by the Outreach Librarian

Local History & Genealogy

PROGRAMS

Bilingual Storytime: 35

English Conversation Class: 15

La Hora de Cuentos (Spanish storytime): 14

7/6 Hidden Gems: Civilian Conservation Corps (showcasing locally held visual materials): 17

7/6 Junior Latino Chamber of Commerce tour of vault, 17 students; 3 adults

7/15 Hidden Gems: Civilian Conservation Corps (showcasing locally held visual materials): 3

7/18 Ancestry 101 (Genealogy database instruction): 4

7/22 Ancestry 101 (Genealogy database instruction): 1

YMCA Craft Fair Outreach event: 100

Total Attendance (in person): 239

Digital Materials Access Highlights

- Through the Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection site, which we paid to post digitized Colorado Daily Chieftains, there were 8,345 pageviews of CDCs across 2,002 users in 879 sessions.
- PCCLD's Digital Archive featuring digitized local collection materials had 5,700 pageviews across 1,100 sessions by 939 users.
- PCCLD provided access to the genealogy database Ancestry in 61 sessions, with 1,620 pageviews and 949 searches.

SPECIAL PROJECTS, INITIATIVES, NEW PARTNERSHIPS

- Installation, "How Far We've Come: America at 250 Colorado at 150" exhibit, 30 people at opening reception

Archives Projects

- 9 resource records (finding aids) created for archival collections to positively affect discovery, access, and use.
- 4 digitization requests completed, including serving Rocky Mountain PBS for documentary on the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project

Archival Reference Sessions

Vault visits: 14 (Comprising of patrons accessing yearbooks, photo files, and newspaper clipping vertical files)

Digital Memory Lab Use -- Patrons spent 20 hours across 8 Photo lab sessions, digitizing their personal collections, largely consisting of photographs and scrapbook pages. Patrons spent 15 hours across 3 sessions at the Audio/Visual lab digitizing their home movies on VHS tape.

Volunteers in LHG

Six volunteers contributed a total of 34.25 hours of labor towards LHG projects/services. This includes work towards description of visual materials in the Colorado Rock Art Association collection, support of the processing of archival materials, and leading English Conversation classes and tutoring.

Experiential Learning

Experiential Learning held a total of 57 programs, outreaches, training sessions, and promotional activities this month, with a total attendance of 1344.

Youth Program Highlight: Weekly Zen Zone in the Makerspace: We hosted 6 Zen Zone programs in the makerspace this July, a time where youth of all ages, plus their caregivers, could come explore and create in a low risk environment. 72 family members came during those sessions to paint mini canvases, color, cut, glue, and explore the space. We had a lot of positive feedback from the families, many of whom either came because of or stayed after the D60 lunch program.

Adult/All Ages Program Highlight: Woodworking: Build a Phone Stand or Tablet Holder

Our patrons always love a practical “learn to use tools and build things” program and this was no exception! We had 18 people from 8- adults come and build a phone stand (or tablet holder, if they so choose to use it) from pre-cut wood. They got to learn how to use sanders, how to attach brackets with hammers and nails, and how to create wood wash with acrylic paints and water and apply it with our foam brushes. The stands looked great and we also learned how to fix split wood- again, learning by doing, a big motto in the makerspace. We will definitely add more woodworking in the future.



Outreach or Special Project/Initiative Highlight:

Aspen Acres Fire hotspot checkouts and support!

The circulation and meeting room team has been busy this month supporting our community by providing meeting space, air conditioning, charging for devices, hotspots, and team members to help staff the support center at PAA. While this was not the July anybody wanted or hoped for, ELD is always happy to step in and support Pueblo in any way we can. Going forward, we are ready to help out on the back end for any fees that need to be waived due to fire loss. This has been a hard season but the constant of the library stands tall, and we are proud to be a part of it.

User Services

Youth Services

Rawlings Youth Services held a total of 95 programs, outreaches, training sessions, and promotional activities this month, with a total attendance of 2743.

Special Project

Title: Storytime at the Pueblo Zoo

Description: For many years, the Youth Services Department has held a special weekly storytime at the zoo. Patrons can get into the zoo for free just to attend! Ms. Jacque welcomed 118 attendees during the month of July.



Youth Program

Title: Summer Reading Programs

Description: Youth Services successfully provided centralized programming across the entire district this past month! In July, we hosted 9 programs tailored for tweens, teens, and families, welcoming a total of 203 participants. Below is a highlight from our popular Shark Tooth Family program.



Adult Services

Impact at a Glance: 52 Programs & Activities | 957 Total Attendance

Adult Literacy Program - The Adult Literacy Program continues to open doors through Grow with Google, Career Online High School, and one-to-one tutoring for adult learners in our community. In July, 6 new learners expressed interest in Grow with Google, where 362 learners are actively engaged, representing 80% of available licenses. Learners completed 97.64 hours of coursework, with 21 making progress and 16 course completions. In Career Online High School, two learners qualified for scholarships after passing the first prerequisite course, and one learner graduated in July and will be recognized at the September ceremony at the Rawlings Branch. The program's personal impact is reflected in new learner Hollie, who is preparing for her final HiSET test. Quiet, shy, and determined, Hollie was thoughtfully matched by Adult Literacy Administrator, Sarah Lahn, with tutor Susan, who offers not only math support, but also reassurance, respect, and encouragement as Hollie works toward earning her high school equivalency.



Tutor and Learner: A tutor with short blond hair and a dark T-shirt sits across a wooden table from a learner in a tie-dye shirt and glasses. They are engaged in a focused discussion over a math worksheet in a bright, sunlit library space.

Community Engagement & Creativity

Centralized Kit2Go: To celebrate America's 250th Anniversary, the team distributed 105 patriotic door rosette kits across all branches. With local firework restrictions in place, patrons were especially grateful for this festive, creative alternative to celebrate the holiday.

Embroidery with Barb: This quarterly crafting class, led by Kathy Kearney, focused on building community and combating the "loneliness epidemic." One participant shared, "I didn't do a big thing. I just learned the stitches," highlighting the value of simple, shared learning experiences in fostering connection across all ages.

Technology Support & Digital Literacy: Technology Specialist, Daniel Vigil, provided 30 one-on-one help sessions and hosted a **Keyboard Shortcuts** class for 10

attendees. His "Digital Drop-In" program is expanding district-wide, with recent successful outreaches at Lamb, Barkman, and Rawlings branches. Additionally, the AARP-sponsored "Tea and Tech" program saw a strong turnout of 62 participants, continuing our mission to bridge the digital divide for our adult community.

Facilities

Work Order Statistics

- 558 Work Orders Completed

Greenhorn Valley

- Ran ozone machine to remove smoke smell.
- Cleaned roof.
- Created RFB for stucco.

Lucero

- Cleaned up breeze way.

Pueblo West

- Replaced condenser fan PW #4.
- Repaired overhead lights.
- Repaired PW RTU#2.

Rawlings

- Remove first floor magazine racks
- Biannual chiller service.
- Repaired roof leaks.
- Replaced starter on pump #4 Rawlings.
- Removed damaged light pole.
- Working on vault HVAC.
- Fixed atrium fan duct work.
- Installed security mirror in Rawlings YS.
- Working on leak on RTU#2 Rawlings.
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Other projects/duties – District

- Replaced all air filters and cleaned exchangers district wide due to ashes and smoke.
- Supported Books in The Park.
- Repair several sprinkler leaks at all locations.
- Cleaned and painted Tech Service office.
- Sent of K95 masks.
- Facilities attended elevator training.
- Mowed fields and detention ponds.

Volunteer Hours

PCCLD Volunteer estimated hours for the month of July 2026.

ADULTS	95.00 HOURS
TEENS	62.75 HOURS
TOTAL HOURS	157.75 HOURS
VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS	\$5,488.12

Thank You Messages

Giodone Library

"I like the computer. I like the summer reading program. I like the puppets."

- Anonymous – Patron

Lamb Library

"Crystal was so helpful. Really appreciate her very much. Everyone is so friendly, we will definitely."

- Heather – Patron

"I haven't been in the branch for a while. Crystal offered some tech assist. She is always kind & welcoming."

- Theresa - Patron

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Baca
Executive Director